

Cutler Mansion

By Carl Mellor

This elegant home-the Cutler Mansion- was the most elegant residence ever built in Lehi in pioneer times, and is still the most valuable residential real estate in Lehi. Sale price in 1993 was listed at \$350,000. It was built for Thomas R. Cutler in 1900.

Thomas R. Cutler was the Chief Executive Officer of the Utah Idaho Sugar Company and the local operation of Zions Cooperative Merchantile Institution in Lehi. This Georgian-Victorian Mansion is the only one known on this side of the Mississippi. There are 5, 084 square feet of living space and seven bedrooms, and lots of roomy closets in this mansion.

During the Christmas season of 1903 Thomas R. Cutler retired as Lehi's bishop, a position he had held for the previous twenty-four years. The people dearly loved him, a sentiment that was reflected in a 24 December 1903 Banner editorial:

"in the retirement of Bishop T.R. Cutler, the people of Lehi have the deepest regret. No Bishop has ever stood higher in the estimation of any people than does Bishop Cutler with the people of Lehi. No bishop has ever done more for the advancement and betterment of his people than he.

Few men, if any, are blessed with a more generous disposition. In this regard he is a most extraordinary man, for he shows a broadness of mind and a bigness of heart that is seldom found in any man. His business ideas are among the best of Utah's financiers, and in a financial way he has done more to bring Lehi to the front than any dozen men.

During the twenty-four years he has been bishop there has hardly been a jar in any of the different organizations. He has never ruled the people with an iron hand, but with a love which knows no bounds, and when of late he would mention in any manner his intention to retire there would be a feeling of regret spring from every heart. But that time has come and he has retired and the people with one voice and

with own heart wish him the greatest success during his whole life.”

After Bishop Cutler’s resignation, the Lehi Ward was divided into four wards. On 1 January, the southern part of town were assigned to meet in the Meeting house under the direction of Bishop Andrew Fjeld. The Second Ward, the north central part of town, held its meetings in the basement of the new tabernacle under Bishop James H. Gardner’s leadership. The Northwest Branch building became Third Ward under Bishop Henry Lewis’s stewardship. Bishop John Stoker’s fourth ward congregation consisting of the northeast quadrant of town, met in the Lehi Commercial and Savings Bank building on the southeast corner of State at Second East.